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Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

November 20, 2002

Date of Deposit

JOHN C. FREEMAN

Name of applicant, assignee or Registered Representative

J. C. Freeman

Signature

November 20, 2002

Date of Signature

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GROUP 3600

BM  
#6  
11/28/02

Case No. 10541/345

Visteon Disclosure No. V200-0854

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: AKHTAR ET AL.

Serial No.: 10/034,574

Filed: December 27, 2001

For: VARIABLE RATE MULTI-ARC  
COMPOSITE LEAF SPRING  
ASSEMBLY

)  
) Art Unit: 3613  
)  
) Examiner: Not Assigned  
)  
)  
)  
)  
)

**SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Applicants wish to bring the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 to the attention of the Examiner in the above-captioned application for U.S. Letters Patent. A copy of each of the referenced documents is enclosed herewith, along with a copy of Form PTO-1449.

## **I. DISCLOSURE**

### **A. U.S. Patents**

| <b><u>Patent No.</u></b> | <b><u>Inventor</u></b> | <b><u>Issue Date</u></b> |
|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 5,938,221                | Wilson                 | 08/17/99                 |
| 6,435,485                | Greco                  | 08/20/02                 |

### **B. Foreign Patents**

| <b><u>Reference No.</u></b> | <b><u>Country</u></b> | <b><u>Pub. Date</u></b> |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 59-89839                    | Japan                 | 05/24/84                |
| 0 994 270                   | EP                    | 04/19/00                |

## **II. DISCUSSION**

### **A. U.S. Patent No. 5,938,221**

The '221 patent was cited as an X-type reference in a Search Report for a corresponding British Patent Application. An X-type reference is a document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step.

### **B. U.S. Patent No. 6,435,485**

The '485 patent was cited as an A-type reference in a Search Report for a corresponding British Patent Application. An A-type reference regards technical background and/or state of the art information and is not deemed pertinent to patentability.

### **C. Japanese Patent Reference No. 59-89839**

Based solely on the drawings and the enclosed English language Abstract, the '839 patent reference is pertinent because it appears to disclose a leaf plate that is coupled with a helper plate and there are elastic members between the two plates.

The '839 patent reference was cited as an A-type reference in a Search Report for a corresponding British Patent Application.

**D. European Patent Reference No. 0 994 270**

The '270 patent reference was cited as an A-type reference in a Search Report for a corresponding British Patent Application.

**III. CONCLUSION**

It is believed that none of these references, alone or in combination, disclose or suggest the invention claimed. However, Applicants wish to make it clear that the disclosure of the above references is in no way an admission that they qualify as prior art. It is Applicants' desire, however, to have these references available in the record for both the Examiner and the public to see. Applicants therefore request that the Examiner review the entire disclosure of each reference and make the above-listed references of record.

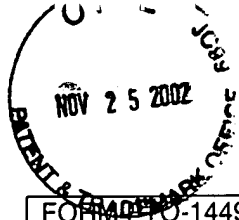
Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: November 20, 2002



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|---|----------------------------------|--|
| FORM PTO-1449   | SERIAL NO.<br>10/034,574         | CASE NO.<br>10541-345<br>Visteon Case No.<br>V200-0845 |
| LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR<br>APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br>STATEMENT | FILING DATE<br>December 27, 2001 | GROUP ART UNIT<br>3613                                 |
| (use several sheets if necessary)   | APPLICANT(S): AKHTAR ET AL.      |  |

**REFERENCE DESIGNATION U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL |     | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER<br><small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small> | DATE       | NAME   | CLASS/<br>SUBCLASS | FILING<br>DATE |
|---------------------|-----|--|------------|--------|--------------------|----------------|
|                     | A1  | 6,435,485 B1   | 08/20/2002 | Greco  |                    | 1/29/2001      |
|                     | A2  | 5,938,221  | 08/17/1999 | Wilson |                    | 12/8/1997      |
|                     | A3  |  |            |        |                    |                |
|                     | A4  |  |            |        |                    |                |
|                     | A5  |  |            |        |                    |                |
|                     | A6  |  |            |        |                    |                |
|                     | A7  |  |            |        |                    |                |
|                     | A8  |  |            |        |                    |                |
|                     | A9  |  |            |        |                    |                |
|                     | A10 |  |            |        |                    |                |
|                     | A11 |  |            |        |                    |                |
|                     | A12 |  |            |        |                    |                |
|                     | A13 |  |            |        |                    |                |

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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL |     | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER<br><small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small> | DATE       | COUNTRY | CLASS/<br>SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION<br>YES |   |
|---------------------|-----|--|------------|---------|--------------------|--------------------|---|
|                     | A14 | EP0994270 A2   | 19/04/2000 | EPO     |                    |                    | X |
|                     | A15 | JP59089839A ✓  | 05/24/1984 | JAPAN   |                    | X                  |   |
|                     | A16 |  |            |         |                    |                    |   |
|                     | A17 |  |            |         |                    |                    |   |
|                     | A18 |  |            |         |                    |                    |   |

| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL | OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) |  |
|---------------------|--|--|
|                     | A19  |  |
|                     | A20  |  |
|                     | A21  |  |
|                     | A22  |  |
|                     | A23  |  |
|                     | A24  |  |

|          |                 |
|----------|-----------------|
| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
|----------|-----------------|

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.